

am reluctantly opposed to advancing of the bill simply because of what the precedent we are starting because next year we could come in with a bill saying we need, you know, English or German should be taught and that was struck down, you know, all these things so we can make a good case for all these programs. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Smith, please, then Senator Dierks.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President. Last year, we all talked about economic development in this body and we passed some legislation that would do some things that would enable Nebraska to recover economically. LB 775 was supposed to create jobs in the State of Nebraska. This year, we are all talking about education as it impacts on economic development and the recovery of the state. I think that this is a way that we can ensure that those workers that are going to fill those jobs as they are provided through what we did last year perhaps will be a way of making sure that those workers will do a good job of helping Nebraska recover. And so, for this reason, I am going to support Senator Nelson's piece of legislation. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Dierks, please, then Senator Remmers.

SENATOR DIERKS: Mr. President and members of the body, I am rising in support of this bill of Senator Nelson's. I think that it presents an opportunity for us, a many-sided opportunity. We can look on it as an opportunity to take some pressure off of the property taxes in Nebraska. I think that we can look on it as an opportunity to provide young people with another little impetus to stay in school. I have seen it in my school system that young people were encouraged to remain in school because of the vocational programs. And so I think that the opportunity is here for us to send a message to educators in Nebraska that we are willing to help with this vocational education and I'm going to support the bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Remmers, please.

SENATOR REMMERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose this bill. I am not...I'm in support of vocational education. I don't think there is anything wrong with vocational education, but I just want to explain my